

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-13 (Cancelled)

14. (New) A fixing device for use in an image forming apparatus to which a high-frequency current is supplied through a coil provided close to an endless member having a metal layer made of a conductive material, the endless member being caused to generate heat to heat a material to be fixed,

wherein the fixing device is controlled in accordance with an amount of electric power that can be supplied, the electric power that can be supplied being defined based on the electric power that remains after components of the image forming apparatus, other than the fixing device, are operated.

15. (New) A fixing device according to claim 14, wherein the amount of electric power is restricted in accordance with how many structural elements of the image forming apparatus are allowed to operate.

16. (New) A fixing device according to claim 14, wherein the amount of electric power is restricted in accordance with a total amount of power consumed by the structural elements of the image forming apparatus that are allowed to operate.

17. (New) An Image forming apparatus comprising:

a photosensitive member which holds an electrostatic latent image;

an exposure device which forms an electrostatic latent image on the photosensitive member;

a developing device which develops the electrostatic image on the photosensitive member with a developer;

an image forming section which forms a developer image on a transfer member, and

a fixing device which fixes the developer image to the transfer member by heating the developer image formed and transfer member, wherein the fixing device generates heat by the flow of a high-frequency current through a coil provided close to an endless member having a metal layer made of a conductive material, and the high-frequency current is controlled in accordance with one of a plurality of power control patterns when the image forming apparatus is in one of an initialize mode, a pre-run mode, an image formation mode and a standby mode.

18. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the coil is supplied with maximum electric power in one of the initialize mode and the pre-run mode.

19. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the plurality of power control patterns are used to change a frequency or duty ratio of a high-frequency current to be supplied.

20. (New) An image forming apparatus comprising:

a photosensitive member which holds an electrostatic latent image;

a rotating device which rotates the photosensitive member;

an exposure device which forms an electrostatic latent image on the photosensitive member;

an image forming device which supplies a developer to the electrostatic latent image on the photosensitive member, and forms a developer image on a transfer member; and

a fixing device which fixes the developer image to the transfer member,

wherein the fixing device is controlled by a plurality of electric power control patterns corresponding to electric power amounts which can be supplied under predetermined conditions, respectively, and the electric power control patterns are used to change an electric power supply within a range of a difference between a maximum electric power which can be input and a sum total of electric power amounts respectively consumed by the rotating device, the exposure device, the image forming device and other components which can be

simultaneously operated in accordance with time periods defined by start times of operations sequentially conducted by the rotating device, exposure device, image forming device and other components.

21. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the electric power control patterns are used to change a frequency or duty ratio of a high frequency current to be supplied.

22. (New) A fixing means for use in an image forming apparatus to which a high-frequency current is supplied through a coil provided close to an endless member having a metal layer made of a conductive material, the endless member being caused to generate heat to heat a material to be fixed,

wherein the fixing means is controlled in accordance with an amount of electric power that can be supplied, the electric power that can be supplied being defined based on the electric power that remains after means of the image forming apparatus, other than the fixing means, are operated.

23. (New) A fixing means according to claim 22, wherein the amount of electric power is restricted in accordance with how many structural elements of the image forming apparatus are allowed to operate.

24. (New) A fixing means according to claim 22, wherein the amount of electric power is restricted in accordance with a total amount of power consumed by the structural elements of the image forming apparatus that are allowed to operate.

25. (New) An image forming apparatus comprising:

a photosensitive means for holding an electrostatic latent image;

an exposure means for forming an electrostatic latent image on the photosensitive means;

a developing means for developing the electrostatic image on the photosensitive means with a developer;

an image forming means for forming a developer image on a transfer means; and

a fixing means for fixing the developer image to the transfer means by heating the developer image and transfer means, wherein the fixing means generates heat by the flow of a high-frequency current through a coil provided close to an endless member having a metal layer made of a conductive material, and the fixing means is controlled in accordance with one of a plurality of power control patterns when the image forming apparatus is in one of an initialize mode, a pre-run mode, an image formation mode and a standby mode.

26. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the coil is supplied with maximum electric power in one of the initialize mode and the pre-run mode.

27. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 26, wherein the plurality of power control patterns are used to change a frequency or duty ratio of a high-frequency current to be supplied.

28. (New) An image forming apparatus comprising:

a photosensitive means for holding an electrostatic latent image,

a rotating means for rotating the photosensitive means;

an exposure means for forming an electrostatic latent image on the photosensitive means;

an image forming means for supplying a developer to the electrostatic latent image on the photosensitive means, and for forming a developer image on a transfer means; and

a fixing means for fixing the developer image to the transfer means, wherein the fixing means is controlled by a plurality of electric power control patterns corresponding to electric power amounts which can be supplied under predetermined conditions, respectively, and the electric power control patterns are used to change an electric power supply within a range of a difference between a maximum electric power which can be input and a sum total of electric power amounts respectively consumed by the rotating means, the exposure means, the image forming means and other means which can be simultaneously operated in

accordance with time periods defined by start times of operations sequentially conducted by the rotating means, exposure means, image forming means and other means.

29. (New) An image forming apparatus according to claim 28, wherein the electric power control patterns are used to change a frequency or duty ratio of a high-frequency current to be supplied.